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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/727,561	12/05/2003	Brett W. Nordin	081069-0305612	7992

909 7590 03/31/2006

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EXAMINER

AHMAD, NASSER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1772

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/727,561

Applicant(s)

NORDIN ET AL.

Examiner

Nasser Ahmad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 27-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 27-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 December 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Rejections withdrawn

1. Claims 27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Roberts (5498455) made in the last Office Action has been withdrawn in view of the amendment filed on January 25, 2006.
2. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roberts in view of McVoy (3827726) made in the last Office Action has been withdrawn in view of the amendment.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 27-29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunn (3505140) in view of Jones (3153868).

Dunn relates to a lamination product (figure-4) comprising a substrate (14) having pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) (14a) material on one side, the PSA being provided in a first portion and a second portion (17), a release material (16) covering a first portion of the one side and exposing a second portion of the one side. A transparent

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laminate (12) is secured to the substrate at the exposed second portion (17) of the one side, a portion of the laminate covering the first portion of the substrate and not being adhered to the substrate due to the release material. The release sheet material is provided with a projecting tab-like end to facilitate grasping and peeling the release sheet to expose the adhesive. However, Dunn fails to teach that the release material is folded. Jones discloses a release material (47), in figure-4, having a tab-like projection (53) and a folded portion (56) for providing removability of the release sheet. Jones teaches that the folded handle and the tab-like handle are equivalent structure known in the art. Therefore, because these two handles for grasping and peeling were art-recognized equivalents at the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to substitute folded release handle for the projected tab-like handle.

Figure-4 of Dunn shows that the document (18) is smaller than the first portion of the substrate, so that the laminate is secure to the substrate around all outer edges of the document.

Dunn also discloses a method for laminating a document comprising the steps of placing a document (18) between the laminate and the substrate, removing the release material to expose the PSA material on the first portion of the substrate and pressing the document and laminate against the exposed adhesive of the first portion.

The intended use phrases such as "can be", etc. have not been given patentable weight because said phrases are not found to be of positive limitations.


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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser Ahmad whose telephone number is 571-272-1487. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Nasser Ahmad 3/28/06
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1772

N. Ahmad.
March 28, 2006.